

THE MORNING ASTORIAN

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Today's Weather.

Western Oregon and Washington—
Saturday, increasing cloudiness, fol-
lowed by showers; cooler.Eastern Oregon and Washington—
Fair.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.

Unless there is opposition in tele-
graph, telephone or street car busi-
ness in any city, municipal ownership
is preferable to an exclusive monopoly
enjoyed by one company or corpora-
tion. The only time a company is
willing to make any concessions is im-
mediately prior to the granting of a
franchise. After they have secured
a monopoly in any one line of busi-
ness they become arrogant, and if
complaint is made about the service
the answer invariably is, "you don't
have to use it." For this reason great
care should be taken by common coun-
cils and other deliberate body in
granting franchises. A franchise
should be in the nature of a contract
and should not be granted for any
long term of years, but should contain
a provision for a renewal, if the con-
ditions of the contract are lived up to,
which is seldom done. If short fran-
chises are granted with restrictions
which can be enforced, better service
is secured in order to get a renewal
of the franchise.

There is no one but what is inter-
ested in securing the investment of
outside capital, but great care should
be exercised in granting franchises, be-
cause after once granted, they are
gone forever. Granting a franchise
should be on the same principles as
buying land. A forfeit should be de-
posited in the hands of the city or
county treasurer, wherever the fran-
chise is to come from, conditioned that
if work was not commenced with a
given time and completed by a cer-
tain date, the money should be for-
feited to the city or county. This is
business and the affairs of the city
should be conducted on business prin-
ciples. There is not a company with
sufficient capital to engage in any
enterprise, who actually mean business
but will be willing to deposit a forfeit.
When it refuses to do so, it is of
doubtful origin and such a fran-
chise should never be granted.

The government of the United States
owns and operates its own postal sys-
tem. For this reason the best service
is given and few if any complaints are
made. The city of Astoria owns and
operates its own water system, and
the money received from water rents
is used in extending and bettering the
service besides providing a sinking
fund to take up its bonds as they ma-
ture. It would be far better if the
city owned its own lighting plant. Bet-
ter service would be given, besides it
would be a paying investment. The
only way for a municipal corporation
to own its own utilities is by building
them in the first instance. After they
have passed into the hands of a cor-
poration they are gone forever and
the public is subject sometimes to un-
reasonable demands and rules, many of
which, perhaps, are necessary for the
proper management of the business.

Astoria needs and will welcome the
investment of capital in any legitimate
enterprise, but it should be the "yel-
low stuff" not the power used in op-
erating windmills. Great care should
be exercised by the common council
in granting franchises and no fran-
chise for any purpose should be grant-
ed to any promoter, company or cor-
poration, without a deposit of at least
\$25,000 as an evidence of good faith.
There have been so many sensations
sprung in Astoria lately—the last the
hotel project—that people will place
more confidence in the intention of the
company applying for a franchise if
they back up that intention by a suf-
ficient deposit to guarantee construc-
tion and completion. Had \$10,000 been
deposited in one of the banks when
the hotel project was launched, as an
evidence of good faith, it would not
have taken a week to raise the entire
amount of \$100,000 and the hotel would
have been an assured fact. As the
matter now stands everyone is of the
opinion that it was an iridescent dream
whose chief propelling power was

wind. The public was worked up to
a high state of excitement over the
prospect of having a new hotel, but
when it was discovered that the pro-
moters would not invest a cent of
their own money in the project, the
scheme looked like 30 cents.

Franchises are too valuable a con-
cession to be given away simply
for the asking. Every inducement
should be offered to enlist the in-
vestment of capital and building in-
dustries, but no franchises should
ever be granted except under the re-
strictions herein suggested. Any com-
pany that means business will not
hesitate for a moment to put up a for-
feited and any company that refuses or
objects should be regarded with sus-
picion. Several members of the com-
mon council have expressed themselves
as determined to insist upon the re-
strictions herein outlined and will no
doubt grant franchises only in the ex-
ercise of good judgment and sound
discretion. This is the duty they owe
to the public, for the franchises be-
long to the public and they are sim-
ply its agents or servants.

CHECKING AGGRESSIONS.

Astoria is not the only community
in the United States in which the
Standard Oil Company is attempting
an invasion, threatening to erect coal
oil tanks which will be a menace to
property security and retard develop-
ments. Kansas is having a wrestling
match with the company and will no
doubt win out in the end. President
Roosevelt has instructed Commis-
sioner Garfield to make an immediate
and thorough investigation into the
doings of the Standard Oil Company,
with especial reference to the situa-
tion in Kansas. This is in answer to
the resolution passed by the house of
representatives requesting an investi-
gation into this matter. Garfield is
head of the bureau of corporations of
the department of commerce and la-
bor. All the resources of that depart-
ment, aided, as far as possible, by the
department of interior and the depart-
ment of justice, will be pressed into
the service. The inquiry will be thor-
ough and comprehensive enough to
meet the demands of the president and
the people.

The fight between the state of Kan-
sas and the Standard Oil Company
thus will serve to enlighten the public
as to some of the operations of that
colossal corporation. The Standard's
conquering career has been running
several decades. It is getting more
and more powerful and autocratic.
Not only does it control the market
in the thing in which it primarily
deals, and which has given the com-
bine its specific name, but it dabbles
in copper, steel and other things, and
is branching out expansively into rail-
way operations and control. Frenzied
Lawson, in some of his frantic ex-
posures of himself and others, tells
about some of the Standard's opera-
tions in United States Steel and
Amalgamated Copper, and as Lawson
consciously or unconsciously, convicts
himself also, the public will be apt to
believe that some of the things he tells
about the Standard are true.

In this investigation by the govern-
ment the truth will be brought out
and if anything is revealed on which
a case can be made the Standard will
have to submit to the ordeal which
has overthrown the Northern Securi-
ties company and the beef trust. Pres-
ident Roosevelt is thoroughly aroused
in this matter. The people are behind
him, and he knows it, and the Stand-
ard knows it. The investigation which
has just been ordered by the presi-
dent will attract not only general at-
tention throughout the United States
but will be followed with interest by
the entire world. The Standard Oil
Company is known all over the globe,
but some trouble may be just ahead
of it which will force it to modify its
extortion and dilute a little of its au-
tority.

Church Notices.

Presbyterian church—Sunday school
at 12:15; Y. P. S. C. E. at 6:30. No
services morning or evening.

Baptist church—Regular services
will be observed at the usual hour.
Preaching by the pastor. Subjects,
morning, "Helping Others;" evening,
"Bread from Heaven." Let everybody
come on time.

First Lutheran—Services Sunday as
follows: Sunday school at 9:30 a. m.
Morning service in Swedish at 10:45;
subject for sermon, "Walk in the
Light." Evening service in English
subject, "One of the Principal Causes
for Diversified Religion." Preaching
at both services by the pastor, Rev.
Gustaf Rudquist. Everybody cordial-
ly invited.

First Congregational—Preaching at
11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. The pastor,
Luther D. Mahone, will be assisted by
the Oliphant sisters of Los Angeles
and Rev. C. F. Clapp of Forest Grove.
Morning subject, "Harmony and Com-
munion of Public Worship;" evening
services of an evangelistic nature.
Sunday school 12:20. The Oliphant
sisters will sing.

Dead Hair

Grow beautiful hair. New method,
scientific and natural cure for scalp
and hair troubles. Six weeks' Eothel
Hair Culture Course by mail with rem-
edies. Results guaranteed. Send 10
cents postage for trial treatment.
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OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

Epitome of Anecdotes and Incidents
With Comments by a Layman.

Tomorrow will be the Holy Sabbath
day, but very few Astorians take ad-
vantage of sitting under the drip-
pings of the sanctuary.

Oregon has only one representative
in congress now. The other three are
trying to keep out of the penitentiary.

Wind pudding is not a good diet for
the promotion of industries. It re-
quires the metallic substance of the
realm to make a showing.

There is some talk of increasing the
Astoria police force. A man was ar-
rested for being drunk this week.

It is wonderful how mean a man is
while he is alive and how good he is
when dead. This is fraternity and
brotherly love.

Any kind of a telephone service
which is an improvement on the pre-
sent one will be appreciated by the pub-
lic.

The man who first invented chewing
gum is dead, but out of respect for his
family the celebration has been post-
poned for a few weeks.

The czar must have a strong con-
stitution. No other kind could stand
so much "complete prostration" over
the news arriving in daily install-
ments.

It is said that the application of live
bees is now used to cure rheumatism.
That ought to be effective in a case
of locomotor ataxia.

There may be something significant
in the fact that the echo was named
after a woman.

A prominent judge in Detroit says
he was struck by the scarcity of sa-
loons in Astoria. He should have asked
the policeman.

Another Russian has declared that
General Stoessell is a coward. It is
observed, however, that the gentle-
man who passed the remark was in
Astoria when he said it.

Blatherskite is a Gaelic word, the
first syllables meaning rambling talk
and the last syllable a squintgun. It
was a stroke of genius to pile up the
idea in that fashion.

CALIFORNIA RESTAURANT.

Reopened Under New Management.
John Blasich has leased the Califor-
nia Restaurant and Oyster House and
is now prepared to serve the public.
The best oysters and meals in the
city. Family trade supplied. Good
cooks, polite waiters and prompt ser-
vice.

There is no complaint about business
at the Star saloon. Good goods and
courteous treatment will draw trade to
any first-class saloon. That's what
makes business good at the Star. The
best is none too good for our customers.

MALARIA
IN THE SYSTEM

Holly Springs, Miss., March 24, 1903.
While building railroads in Tennessee
some twelve years ago a number of hands
contracted fever and various forms of
blood and skin diseases. I carried S. S. S.
in my commissary and gave it to my hands
with most gratifying results. I can recom-
mend S. S. S. as the finest preparation for
Malaria, chills and fever, as well as all
blood and skin diseases. W. I. MCGOWAN.

I suffered greatly from Boils, which
would break out on different parts of my
body. I saw S. S. S. advertised and after
using about three bottles I was cured,
and for the last three years have had no
trouble whatever. A. W. ZIEGLER.
217 Read St., Evansville, Ind.

I began using your S. S. S. probably ten
years ago for Malaria and blood troubles,
and it proved so good that I have con-
tinued ever since using it as a family
remedy. It is a pleasure for me to recom-
mend S. S. S. for the benefit of others
who are needing a first rate blood purifier,
tonic and cure for Malaria.
Arkansas City, Ark. C. C. HEMINGWAY.

Boils, abscesses, sores, dark or yellow
spotches and debility are some of the
symptoms of this miserable disease.
S. S. S. counteracts and removes from the
blood all impuri-
ties and poisons
and builds up the
entire system. It is
guaranteed a pure-
ly vegetable reme-
dy. Write for med-
ical advice or any
special informa-
tion about case.



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If he cannot supply the
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order, but send stamp for
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full particulars and directions for
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Matinee daily at 2:45 p. m.

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NAGLE & ADAMS

Novelty and Comedy Duo, introducing
singing, high class Whistling Solos and
bird imitations

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Singing Comedian

BOB KENYON
Singing Pictured Melodies
"When the Lilacs Bloom Again"
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Admission 10 cents to any seat.

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These tiny capsules are superior
to Balsam of Copaiba,
Cubeba or Injections and
CURE IN 48 HOURS
the same diseases with-
out inconvenience.
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Like New.

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is not the best thing
on earth for a cold or
the Grippe. Avoid
imitations.
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